HaikuLife

from

a butterfly on my skin

tan-renga / tanka

Christina Chin / M. R. Defibaugh

Tan-Renga Series

Tan-Renga / tanka

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a butterfly on my skin

she gives me
the silent treatment
lingering snow

a cat sneaks up on a bird
no luck

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a butterfly on my skin

the wet pine smell
of morning sun
melting snow

early trout lilies
in thaw circles bloom

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a butterfly on my skin
mirroring winter
the branches again
snow-white

first signs of spring
the smell of pear blossoms

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a butterfly on my skin

California
almond blossoms

the workers buzzing
from tree to tree
pollinating

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a butterfly on my skin

crouched behind
the hedgerows
. . . bumblebees

sipping morning dew
a little hungover

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a butterfly on my skin
spring cleaning
my youngest nephew
tries on a rug

detach
my heart in the recycle bag

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a butterfly on my skin

new meds . . .
the colorful flowers
not as crazy

a butterfly
on my skin

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a butterfly on my skin

miles behind him
after only a few steps
vacant wheelchair

the woods
taste of spring pine

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a butterfly on my skin
my depression deepens
the mountains
laughing sarcastically

hosing the flowers
birds chitter agitatedly

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a butterfly on my skin
spring glowing
in the fishing net

luminescent squid
jiggling
squid jigging competition

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a butterfly on my skin

swallows skedaddle
a spray of willow
dew

the sprinklers
catch me by surprise

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a butterfly on my skin

silvery blue butterfly
wishing life floated by
as slowly

mile upon mile
in the sunny fields

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a butterfly on my skin

first warm day
children fighting over
yellow stubs of chalk

drawing yellow sun
and yellow flowers

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a butterfly on my skin

a sudden rainstorm
quiets the voices
of a mynah bird

the patter of quick steps
at the clothesline

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a butterfly on my skin

rain call
the backyard frogs
in good form

over Zoom
then the signal croaks

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Tan-Renga Series

Christina Chin is a painter and haiku poet from Malaysia. She is
a four-time recipient of top 100 in the mDAC Summit Contests, exhibited at the Palo Alto Art Center, California. 1st prize winner of the 34th Annual Cherry Blossom Sakura Festival 2020 Haiku Contest. 1st prize winner in the 8th Setouchi Matsuyama 2019 Photohaiku Contest. She has been published in numerous journals, multilingual journals, and anthologies, including Japan's prestigious monthly Haikukai Magazine.

M. R. Defibaugh is a Virginia-based poet and haiku enthusiast.
He has degrees in mathematical sciences (BA, University of Illinois at Springfield) and operations management (MS, University of Arkansas). His work has appeared in numerous journals, including Frogpond, Modern Haiku, Failed Haiku, Stardust Haiku, and Trash Panda.